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which requires to be made public, to serve as a warning to others.—JAMES FOGGY, and DAVID CHAMBERS, two lightermen of Lisburn, were bringing up a boat-load of coals to John Hancock, of that town. On measuring them out, they were found to be nearly two tons deficient. An assistant boatman, who had been only part of the time with them on their passage, proved, that during the time he was with them, they had disposed of $3\frac{1}{2}$ tubs.—A prosecution against them at the ensuing Quarter Sessions at Hillsborough was intended, but, on their making a public acknowledgment of their fraud, in consideration of their poverty, they are for this time permitted to go unpunished. It is hoped that by this intimation, the ends of public justice will be answered; that they and other boatmen will be deterred from practising such frauds, and the owners of coals be induced to look more closely to the delivery of the cargoes.

METHOD OF ENTERING A ROOM ON FIRE.

The linen having taken fire in the Laun-

dry at Corby Castle, Cumberland, about a week ago, the destruction of the premises was prevented by the great exertions of George Hodgson and Andrew Park, and others of the family, even before Mr. Howard's zealous and friendly neighbours had flocked in to assist them. It was in vain attempted to enter the room in an erect posture without danger of immediate suffocation, but Andrew Park found, that by crawling or stooping low, the atmosphere near the floor was so clear that he was enabled to penetrate, without inconvenience, and thereby save some linen, and drag out part of that which was in flames.—Although this result may, from the nature of smoke, appear obvious to many, it is thought that this practical elucidation of a theory may become useful on similar accidents, where the fire proceeds from linen or furniture. Persons entering into the smoke, should also take the precaution of wetting their gloves and sleeves, which will prevent their being so easily burnt.

AGRICULTURAL REPORT,

From 20th November to 20th December, 1811.

In the present season very little occurs to remark on agricultural subjects.

The weather since last report has been variable, but for the most part wet and stormy, and yet it has been remarked where the plough has been employed that the soil turns drier, and in better order than could be expected after so much rain. The meadows and grass lands have retained a verdure unusual in the middle of winter, in consequence of there having been no frost to check vegetation.

The prices of grain continue nearly the same as they were last month, wheat for a week or two lowered a little, but seems rising again, and will not probably be lower through the season:

Oat-meal has been stationary for the last month, rating generally at the average of 22 or 23s. per hundred.

Potatoes bring various prices in different quarters of the country: in some they rate from $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 4d. per stone, while in others they are as high as 6d. to $6\frac{1}{2}$ d.

Flax some time ago experienced a reduction in the price, but has since risen, and will probably keep up so long as the demand for exportation continues.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

If ruin does not directly stare us in the face, at every step we take in the progress of this calamitous war, at least commercial distress is accumulating with additional pressure. We sink under a most oppressive load of taxation produced by the war. Gold has disappeared, and we are suffering more than many are yet aware, from the depreciation of the substituted paper. This also arises from the war. To all these evils, we have now to add the riots at Nottingham, and the adjacent midland counties of England. It is necessa-

sary to go below the surface to account for those riots, and to trace their source to the war, that fruitful cause of calamities. The weight of taxes, and the general badness of trade have forced people into habits of rigid economy, and prudent persons are necessitated to deny themselves of many gratifications, which in better times were allowable. From inability to raise present supplies, recourse was had, through necessity, to articles of inferior quality, and those, although in the end less durable, and more expensive, answered the present exigency. Hence most articles were made more flimsy, and of inferior quality, and a consequent deterioration in many manufactures, and a reduction in prices of weaving took place; in the muslin and calico trade, by forcing the weavers to work higher sets, at the rates of lower ones, and in the manufacture of stockings, by making them of a smaller size, and inferior quality, and at last by weaving in pieces, and cutting those pieces into the shape of stockings. Thus the wages of workmanship were abridged, while owing to a defective harvest, and fear of a failure of foreign supplies, the prices of the necessities of life were enhanced. The workmen rose at first to break the frames used in the manufacture of those piece goods, and when once associated, have gathered additional strength so as materially to threaten the peace of the country. Many outrages have been committed, and when a mob is once embodied, it is difficult to guess when or where they will stop.

At Liverpool, a judicious plan has been adopted for the present employment of the poor thrown out of work by the badness of the times. Money is advanced by subscription to the commissioners of the Docks, not to be recalled for five years, to enable them to proceed more largely with their works, in hopes their former extensive trade, may in time of peace, or by the abrogation of the pernicious orders in council return to them. It is a good scheme to meet the present pressing difficulty, as the best mode of assisting the poor, who by any casual means are thrown out of their usual employment, is to restore some temporary channels for the exertions of their industry. Thus the elasticity of their minds, and a laudable spirit of independence may be best preserved.

The probability of no early change in the respective policy of the United States, and the important fact disclosed in the President's message to Congress, of it having been officially announced, that a continuance of the Non-importation Law would lead to measures of retaliation on the part of the British Government, are circumstances which have influenced the value of several descriptions of American produce. Cotton, however, is the article which has been more particularly affected, and for two or three days after the receipt of the intelligence in question, it met in Liverpool with a spirited and extensive demand from both Dealers and Speculators, at a considerable improvement upon the former prices. The advance, generally, may be estimated at $1\frac{1}{2}$ d, but upon Bahia and Sea Island Cottons it is reckoned equal to 2d. and in some instances to $2\frac{1}{2}$ d per lb. The inquiry has, in some measure, subsided, but the demand is regular, and the confidence of the holders has not suffered any abatement. The imports of cotton into Liverpool since the 1st November do not exceed 7,500 bags, whereas the sales amount to not less than 41,000; and allowing that fully one-third of this quantity has been bought on speculation, their stock has experienced an actual decrease of about 25,000 bags. It may also be observed, that the demand for Twist in Manchester, with a view to exportation, principally to Malta and the Baltic, continues very steady, at a considerable advance in the prices.—Pot Ashes are in rather more request.

Accounts from Jamaica state that owing to the large quantities of damaged linens sent out from Ireland, and sold as of a good quality, the character of our linens has been brought into great disrepute. This loss of reputation is of great injury to our linen trade, and calls for immediate redress, more especially as Jamaica is the great market, by which our linens mostly find an entrance to the Spanish main, and if that market is lost by the continuance of such fraudulent proceedings, great injury will be sustained.

Among the documents will be found a letter from John Dumbell to Lord Frankfort, published by order of the linen board in relation to a supposed improvement in spinning linen yarn by machinery, by cutting the flax, so that it may be previously carded. The taste which the writer requires his plan to be adopted by the purchase of his patent-right, looks suspicious, and there is room to doubt that yarn made of flax cut short cannot be equal in quality to that made of the long staple. Flax is now in the rough as dear as cotton twist, and linen made as he proposes, may be supposed to require some further bleaching, and all the finishing processes. From these considerations the plan does not appear likely to answer in practice.

Distillation from grain will probably be prevented in England on the meeting of parliament, either by direct prohibition, or by encouragement given to the use of sugar in the distilleries. We refer to the documents for petitions from Liverpool, and the Common council of London on this subject. The lowering of the price of grain may be expected from the adoption of this salutary and necessary measure. It is not yet mentioned whether the Irish distilleries will be included in this regulation, but there is cause to fear the interest of landholders may be preferred, although to the injury of the community at large.

In the last Commercial report, the discount on bank notes was through inadvertence stated at 22 per cent. It ought to have been marked at 20. Owing to a want of orders to purchase guineas, discount has latterly fallen to 16 or 18 per cent; being 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d. per piece. But this reduction can only be considered as temporary, as gold in bullion is in London at 5*l.* 10s. per oz. or 1*l.* 12s. 1*½*d. above the mint price, and silver at 7s. per oz. or 1s. 3*½*d. above the mint standard. In Dublin the discount is about 20 per cent, or 5s. 6d. per guinea.

A meeting has been held in Belfast, to petition parliament to place Ireland upon the same footing with Great Britain in any future bill to be brought into parliament respecting payments in specie. This is a subject with which it will be found very unsafe to meddle. Acts of parliament cannot restore public credit, or stop the depreciation of paper, while powerful causes arising from political and commercial circumstances operate in a contrary direction. If bank notes are made a legal tender, the depreciation will be more rapid, and the next step in the work of counteraction will most probably be the law of a maximum, or fixing the highest rates, at which goods of every kind will be permitted to be sold, for without this violent measure, the making of bank notes a legal tender will be defeated by a rise in all the articles of merchandize, and of food, equivalent to the loss on the paper. Against enforcing a maximum, France has afforded a severe and awful warning. The effect of bank paper being made a legal tender, would be to defraud all creditors under old contracts, and to make a most violent inroad on property of almost every description.

Exchange on London is 8 to 8*¼* per cent.

NATURALIST' REPORT.

From November 20 to December 20.

The peculiar mildness of the weather has induced several plants to be in blow which seldom appear at this season.

Throughout this period Auriculas (*Primula Auricula*), Anemones (*Anemone coronaria*), Hepaticas (*Anemone Hepatica*), Marigold (*Calendula officinalis*), with Groundsel (*Senecio vulgaris*), Dandelion (*Leontodon Taraxacum*), Milfoil or Yarrow (*Achillea Millefolium*), Charlock or Praissagh (*Sinapis Arvensis*), and French Furze or Whins (*Ulex Europus*) have continued to display flowers.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

From November 20, to December 20.

21, 22, Dark days, with some smart showers.
 23, Dry.
 24, Wet afternoon.
 25, 29, Dry.
 30, Light Rain during the afternoon.
 Dec. 1, 2, Stormy days, wet in the evening.
 3, Showery day, wet night.
 4, Showery, snow at night.

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